



**MITCHELL E. DANIELS, Jr., Governor**  
**STATE OF INDIANA**

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY    JOSEPH E. WAINSCOTT, JR., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

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For Immediate Release

## **IDHS Announces New Leadership Positions**

INDIANAPOLIS (April 14, 2008) – Joseph E. Wainscott, Jr., executive director of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS), today announced two new hires and two promotions to leadership positions.

Michael Garvey has been promoted to the position of chief of staff and Brad Thatcher will be the new director of training. Jason D. Hutchens has been hired as the new director of planning and Arvin Copeland has been hired as the new director of emergency response.

**Mike Garvey**, a Brownsburg resident, was promoted from chief deputy for the Indiana State Fire Marshall, a position he has held since 2005 to chief of staff for IDHS. He has served IDHS and its predecessor agencies in various management positions since 1985, and has an extensive background with Indiana's statewide efforts with emergency medical services and response, bioterrorism preparedness and emergency cardiac care. Other positions with the State of Indiana include training coordinator for EMS, deputy director for EMS training and certification, acting director of the Indiana EMS Commission and deputy director of the EMS division.

He grew up on the west side of Indianapolis and graduated from Northwest High School.

As chief of staff, he will provide professional assistance to the IDHS executive director, performing high-level management work covering a broad range of activities, including supervision of staff and representing IDHS and the executive director internally and externally.

**Brad Thatcher** has been promoted to director of training. Over the course of his career, Thatcher has a variety of supervisory, investigative, law enforcement and military experience.

He was promoted from the post of assistant director of training, a position he's had since November of 2005. He served as acting director of training from April-November of 2005. Prior to the transition to IDHS, Thatcher was director of the preparedness division for the Indiana State Emergency Management Agency. He also served in the positions of training and exercise branch manager and local comprehensive emergency management planning branch manager.

Thatcher has been a chief investigator for a private company specializing in undercover narcotics and theft investigations, and also spent eight years as a special deputy sheriff in Marion County. In 2002 he retired from the United States Army Reserve after a 24-year career.

The IDHS training division provides or coordinates training, continuing education, and exercises for the state's public safety practitioners. The division's associates currently provide training in emergency management, emergency medical services (EMS), fire services and hazardous materials. In addition to its training efforts, the division maintains certification records for Indiana firefighters and EMS personnel.

He is a graduate of Noblesville High School.

**Arvin Copeland** has been hired as the new director for the division of emergency response. He will begin his duties April 21.

Copeland has a background in firefighting, emergency management and as an elected official and comes to IDHS from the Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency, where he has been administrative director since 2005. Prior to that, he was a firefighter in Wabash for 20 years, working his way through the ranks until he was named chief, and served in that capacity from 1995-99. He gave up firefighting after being elected mayor of Wabash,

Copeland earned a bachelor's degree in business management from Indiana Wesleyan University, and has a certification in professional emergency management, and fire master certifications in tactics, management, investigation, inspection and as an emergency medical technician instructor.

Until 2005, Copeland was a lifelong resident of Wabash and graduated from Wabash High School.

The IDHS Division of Emergency Response assists local emergency response leaders who coordinate or support local incident management at major or complex emergencies or disasters. The division also assists individuals and local jurisdictions with recovery from natural or manmade disasters, in addition to coordinating mitigation programs designed to reduce the impact of future disasters on a community.

**Jason D. Hutchens** has been hired as the new director for the division of planning. He will begin his duties April 28.

The Bargersville resident comes to IDHS from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, where he was chief deputy. He is an attorney with significant public policy experience.

As director of planning, Hutchens will oversee comprehensive planning assessment; assist in the development of a single, statewide strategic, operational and tactical plan; assist local entities through planning and grants assistance; and provide support for other divisions internal and external to the agency with incident and event specific planning requests.

Hutchens is an associate fellow with the Sagamore Institute for Policy Research in Indianapolis and an adjunct instructor for the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis. Previous experience includes chief administrator of special projects at the Marion County Justice Agency and coordinator of the Indianapolis Violence Reduction Partnership; and research fellow at the Hudson Institute in Indianapolis where he also was a liaison with the Indianapolis Mayor's Office.

He also is a member of the board of directors for the Justice Information Sharing Practitioners (JISP), which conducts work nationally on information sharing for law enforcement and homeland security efforts.

He received his doctor of jurisprudence from Indiana University School of Law in Indianapolis in May 2001 and his bachelor's degree in public affairs from Indiana University in 1998. He is a native of Greenwood and graduated from Center Grove High School.

“These appointments, along with Governor Mitch Daniels’ announcement of James L. Greeson as the Indiana State Fire Marshal, complete the leadership team for IDHS,” said Executive Director Wainscott.

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